

In re Application of WANG et al.
Serial No. 10/808,877

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, comprising:

performing ordinary error checking until a system crash of a particular type occurs; and

after the system crash, power on self tests, and initiation of booting to an operating system, executing instructions and automatically performing enhanced error checking including checking for memory corruption, the enhanced error checking performed depending on the particular type of system crash and operating to assist in locating instructions or software components that caused the system crash.

2. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising:

upon the system crash, storing a stop code that identifies the particular type of system crash; and

after the power on self test and the initiation of booting to an operating system, retrieving the stop code and determining the enhanced error checking to perform based on the stop code.

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3. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1,
wherein the enhanced error checking is performed prior to a user ~~diagnoses~~
diagnosis related to the system crash.

4. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1,
wherein the enhanced error checking is performed without a user ~~diagnoses~~
diagnosis related to the system crash.

5. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1,
wherein the enhanced error checking further comprises checking resource-related
operations.

6. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein the
resource-related operations comprise allocating and freeing memory.

7. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 6,
wherein checking the resource-related operations further comprises tracking each
allocation and freeing of memory performed by at least one process.

8. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 5,
wherein the resource-related operations are performed by drivers that execute in
kernel mode.

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9. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 5
claim 1, wherein the resource-related operations further comprise allocating and
freeing page table entries.

10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 10 claim
1, wherein the memory corruption occurs in memory reserved for kernel processes.

12. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the
memory corruption occurs by a kernel process writing to a block of memory after the
kernel process has freed the block of memory.

13. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, further
comprising loading a driver verifier to monitor actions of one or more of the kernel
processes.

14. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 13,
wherein the driver verifier provides a memory block to the one or more kernel
processes, and wherein the memory block is marked to remain in memory.

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15. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the memory block is aligned with the end of a page of memory having a following page, and wherein the following page is marked as inaccessible, such that an access to the following page results in an access violation.

16. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, comprising:

storing information associated with the system crash of a particular type, the information including a stop code that identifies the particular type of system crash;

reading the stop code from the information, wherein reading the stop code occurs after an operating system begins executing; and

automatically initiating a diagnostic procedure associated with the stop code, the diagnostic procedure designed to identify an instruction or software component that caused the system crash by collecting data tailored to identifying errors of the particular type that caused the system crash.

17. (canceled).

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 17 claim 16, further comprising changing the stop code before initiating the diagnostic procedure to select the diagnostic procedure.

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19. (canceled).

20. (new) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, comprising:

performing ordinary error checking until a system crash of a particular type occurs; and

after the system crash, power on self tests, and initiation of booting to an operating system, executing instructions and automatically performing enhanced error checking, the enhanced error checking performed depending on the particular type of system crash and operating to assist in locating instructions or software components that caused the system crash, and wherein the enhanced error checking comprises checking resource-related operations including allocating and freeing memory.

21. (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein checking the resource-related operations comprises tracking each allocation and freeing of memory performed by at least one process.

22. (new) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, comprising:

performing ordinary error checking until a system crash of a particular type occurs; and

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after the system crash, power on self tests, and initiation of booting to an operating system, executing instructions and automatically performing enhanced error checking, the enhanced error checking performed depending on the particular type of system crash and operating to assist in locating instructions or software components that caused the system crash, wherein the enhanced error checking comprises checking resource-related operations, and wherein the resource-related operations are performed by drivers that execute in kernel mode.

23. (new) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions, comprising:

performing ordinary error checking until a system crash of a particular type occurs; and

after the system crash, power on self tests, and initiation of booting to an operating system, executing instructions and automatically performing enhanced error checking, the enhanced error checking performed depending on the particular type of system crash and operating to assist in locating instructions or software components that caused the system crash, wherein the enhanced error checking comprises checking resource-related operations including allocating and freeing page table entries.